

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-13 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-06 SS-15

SP-02 INT-05 /112 W

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R 060718Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1402

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 11843

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EQUIP, JA

SUBJECT: DROP IN ORDERS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN

1. JAPANESE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS ON AUGUST 6 REPORTED STARTLING DROP IN ORDERS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT FOR JUNE. ACCORDING TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE REPORTS, ORDERS FOR JUNE DOWN 75.4 PERCENT FROM MAY, 1976 AND DOWN 94.8 PERCENT FROM SAME MONTH A YEAR AGO. JAPANESE LANGUAGE PRESS AND EMBASSY CHECK WITH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES REVEAL SUBJECT REPORT TO BE IN ERROR. JAPANESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS ALSO REVEALED SOME SMALLER BUT SIGNIFICANT DISCREPANCIES WHICH INDUSTRY SOURCES CLEARED UP. ACTUAL STATISTICS FOLLOW.

2. JANUARY-JUNE ORDERS STAND AT 88.7 BILLION YEN, DOWN 10.8 PERCENT FROM SAME PERIOD A YEAR AGO. MONTHLY ORDERS IN APRIL-JUNE PERIOD OF THIS YEAR AVERAGED 26 BILLION YEN PER MONTH AS COMPARED TO 37.6 BILLION YEN MONTHLY AVERAGE FOR JAN-DEC 1975. ORDER RECEIVED IN JUNE TOTALED 22.569 BILLION YEN WHICH REPRESENTS 75.4 PERCENT OF PRECEDING MONTH ORDERS AND 94.8 PERCENT OF ORDERS FOR SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. (NOTE: UNCLASSIFIED

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AS NOTED PARA 1 ABOVE, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACCOUNTS

RECORDED ABOVE FIGURES AS 75.4 PERCENT AND 94.8 PERCENT
DECLINE.)

3. ORDERS FOR AIR POLLUTION PREVENTION EQUIPMENT IN
JUNE TOTALED 3.94 BILLION YEN, 62.1 PERCENT OF PREVIOUS
MONTH AND LOWEST MONTHLY TOTAL THIS YEAR. ORDERS FOR
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT DECLINED 27.6 PERCENT
FROM MAY LEVEL TO 12.93 BILLION YEN DUE LARGELY TO
REDUCTION IN ORDERS FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT EQUIPMENT.
ORDERS FOR WASTE TREATMENT EQUIPMENT TOTALED 5.55
BILLION YEN, 99.2 PERCENT OF PRECEDING MONTH (THAT IS
0.8 PERCENT DECLINE). ORDERS FOR GARBAGE TREATMENT
EQUIPMENT DECLINED 63.7 PERCENT. HOWEVER, INDUSTRIAL
WASTE TREATMENT EQUIPMENT ORDERS WERE UP 900 PERCENT
OVER MAY ORDERS. ORDERS FOR NOISE AND VIBRATION ABATE-
MENT EQUIPMENT TOTALED 140 MILLION YEN IN JUNE, 97.3
PERCENT OF MAY ORDERS.

4. JUNE ORDERS FROM MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES TOTALED
6.44 BILLION YEN, 57.1 PERCENT OF ORDERS IN MAY.
ORDERS FROM NON-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES DOUBLED,
REACHING 4.94 BILLION YEN. ORDERS FROM PUBLIC AND
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES DECLINED 34.6 PERCENT TO 9.6
BILLION YEN IN JUNE.

5. DEMAND FOR POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT EXPECTED
TO PICK UP AS ECONOMY RECOVERS FROM RECESSION.
EMBASSY WILL SUBMIT ITS ASSESSMENT OF MARKET POTENTIAL
FOR THESE PRODUCTS AS PART OF BEST PROSPECT REPORT
SCHEDULED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO USDOC MID OCTOBER.
WILL SEND DRAFT OF POLLUTION EQUIPMENT REPORT WHEN
COMPLETED IN VIEW SCHEDULED USDOC PARTICIPATION IN
APEX NEXT MARCH.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLLUTION CONTROL, EQUIPMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO11843
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760303-0395
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760876/aaaacokx.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DROP IN ORDERS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN
TAGS: ECON, EQIP, JA
To: STATE
COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006